

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior listings.

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently Amended) An anti-shift collar comprising:
an elliptical outer perimeter;
a first clipped end and a second clipped end formed in said elliptical outer perimeter; and
an inner perimeter including a semi-circular inner perimeter portion having a first semi-circular surface, a second, opposed semi-circular surface, a first polygonal inner perimeter portion and a second polygonal inner perimeter portion, each of the first semi-circular surface and the second, opposed semi-circular surface being connected on one end to said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and on an opposite end to said second polygonal inner perimeter portion such that together said first semi-circular surface, said second, opposed semi-circular surface, said first polygonal inner perimeter portion, and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion entirely form said inner perimeter~~said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion contiguous with said semi-circular inner perimeter portion, and said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion formed respectively adjacent said respective first clipped end and second clipped end.~~
28. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 27, wherein said first polygonal portion and said second polygonal portion each include a first surface with a component respectively parallel to said first clipped end and a second clipped end.
29. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 28, wherein said first polygonal portion and said second polygonal portion each include a second surface and a third surface non-perpendicular with said first surface.

30. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 28, wherein said semi-circular portion is defined about a central longitudinal axis, said first surface tangential to said semi-circular portion

31. (Currently Amended) An anti-shift collar comprising:
an elliptical outer perimeter;
a first clipped end and a second clipped end formed in said elliptical outer perimeter; and
an inner perimeter including a semi-circular inner perimeter portion having a first semi-circular surface, a second, opposed semi-circular surface, a first polygonal inner perimeter portion and a second polygonal inner perimeter portion, each of the first semi-circular surface and the second, opposed semi-circular surface being connected on one end to said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and on an opposite end to said second polygonal inner perimeter portion such that together said first semi-circular surface, said second, opposed semi-circular surface, said first polygonal inner perimeter portion, and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion entirely form said inner perimeter~~said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion contiguous with said semi-circular inner perimeter portion, and~~ and said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion each include a first surface, a second surface and a third surface, said second surface and said third surface non-perpendicular with said first surface.

32. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 31, wherein said second surface and said third surface are non-parallel to a longitudinal axis of the anti-shift collar, said longitudinal axis defined through a center of a circle formed by said semi-circular inner perimeter portion.

33. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 31, further comprising a first clipped end a said second clipped end formed in said elliptical outer perimeter.

34. (Previously Presented) A method of mounting a stabilizer bar comprising the steps of:

- (1) sliding an anti-shift collar over a stabilizer bar, the anti-shift collar having an elliptical outer perimeter, a first clipped end and a second clipped end formed in the elliptical outer perimeter, an inner perimeter including a semi-circular inner perimeter portion, a first polygonal inner perimeter portion and a second polygonal inner perimeter portion, the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion contiguous with the semi-circular inner perimeter portion, the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion formed respectively adjacent the first clipped end and the second clipped end;
- (2) crimping the anti-shift collar simultaneously in four locations upon the elliptical outer perimeter; and
- (3) forming a first pinched area from the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the first clipped end and a second pinched area from the second polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second clipped end, the first pinched area and the second pinched area extending outward along a longitudinal axis to retain the anti-shift collar on the stabilizer bar.

35. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein said step (2) further comprises:

- (a) directing the crimps generally transverse to the stabilizer bar and not toward a central longitudinal axis of the stabilizer bar.

36. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein said step (2) further comprises:

- (a) directing the crimps to take-up a clearance of the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion.

37. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 34, wherein said step (1) further comprises:

- (a) sliding the anti-shift collar over the stabilizer bar such that the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion pass over a formed ends of the stabilizer bar.

38. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 27, wherein said second surface and said third surface are non-parallel to a longitudinal axis of the anti-shift collar, said longitudinal axis defined through a center of a circle formed by said semi-circular inner perimeter portion.

39. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 38, wherein said anti-shift collar is a generally planar member transverse to said longitudinal axis.

40. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 39, wherein said anti-shift collar is generally a flat plate.

41. (Currently Amended) The ~~anti-shift collar~~^{method} as recited in claim ~~27~~³⁴, wherein said semi-circular inner perimeter portion includes a first semi-circular surface and a second, opposed semi-circular surface, each of the first semi-circular surface and the second, opposed semi-circular surface being connected on one end to said first polygonal inner perimeter portion and on an opposite end to said second polygonal inner perimeter portion such that together said first semi-circular surface, said second, opposed semi-circular surface, said first polygonal inner perimeter portion, and said second polygonal inner perimeter portion entirely form said inner perimeter.

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 34, wherein the crimping of the anti-shift collar includes permanently deforming the anti-shift collar.

44. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 27, wherein the first and second clipped ends are straight.

45. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 27, wherein the first and second clipped ends are adjacent, respectively, to the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion.
46. (Previously Presented) The anti-shift collar as recited in claim 27, wherein the first polygonal inner perimeter portion and the second polygonal inner perimeter portion each include three straight sides.